

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, and 4-18 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 9-15, and 18 have been rejected. Claims 6-8, 16, and 17 have been objected to. Claims 1, 7 and 8 have been amended. Claims 6 and 9 have been canceled. New claims 19 to 21 have been added. Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8 and 10-21 are, therefore, presently pending. Favorable reconsideration of the application in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter. Claim 1 has been amended to add the subject matter of claim 6 (now canceled). New independent claim 19 further includes the subject matter of claim 8. New independent claim 21 has been amended to add the subject matter of claim 17. All the independent claims presently pending are now believed allowable, since claims 6, 8, and 17 have been indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Since independent claims 1, 19 and 21 comply with these instructions, the claims are now believed patentable.

Previous claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 9-15, and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Ali et al.

This rejection is now believed moot in view of the above amendments. The subject matter of the claims would not have been obvious over Ali et al. at the time the invention was made.

Applicants have reviewed the prior art made of record and believe that singly or in any suitable combination, they do not render Applicants' claimed invention unpatentable.

It is believed that the foregoing is a complete response to the Office Action and that the claims are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue is therefore earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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